

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PARIS 15976 191643Z
ACTION SS-25

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O O 191643Z MAY 78 ZFF 4
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 1800
INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE
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USMISSION USUN IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 15976

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MOPS, PINS, CG, FR
SUBJ: KOLWEZI EVACUATION

REF: STATE 127568

1. WE CONVEYED OUR CONCERN AT THE LACK OF A PUBLIC SCENARIO REGARDING THE KOLWEZI EVACUATION TO A SENIOR MEMBER OF FONMIN DE GUIRINGAUD'S CABINET. HE AGREED ON THE DESIRABILITY OF BOTH A PUBLIC APPEAL FOR ASSISTANCE FROM MOBUTU AND A ZAIRIAN LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL. AS REGARDS THE FORMER, HOWEVER, HE SAID THAT IT APPEARED THAT EVENTS MAY ALREADY HAVE PASSED IT BY, AS THE FRENCH WERE ALREADY IN OPERATION. WE SAID THAT A PUBLIC STATEMENT BY MOBUTU EVEN AFTER THE FACT SAYING HE HAD ASKED FOR HELP WOULD SERVE OUR PURPOSES. HE AGREED.

2. AS FOR THE LETTER TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT, THE QUAI SAID THAT IT MADE MOST SENSE TO HAVE URGENT CONCERTATION IN KINSHASA AS WE COULD THEN HAVE QUICKER CONFIDENTIAL

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ACCESS TO MOBUTU. HE THEREFORE SAID THAT HE WOULD SEND A TELEGRAM TO THE FRENCH EMBASSY IN KINSHASA INSTRUCTING IT TO CONSULT WITH US, THE BELGIANS AND THE BRITISH ON BOTH THE PUBLIC DECLARATION AND THE LETTER.

3. WE ALSO MADE A PARALLEL APPROACH TO A MEMBER OF THE ELYSEE INTERNATIONAL STAFF WHO SAID HE WOULD BRING THE

MATTER IMMEDIATELY TO THE ATTENTION OF GISCARD'S AFRICAN
ADVISOR RENE JOURNIAC. WE HOPE OUR DUAL APPROACH WILL
ENSURE THAT THE DESIRED INSTRUCTIONS DO GET ISSUED.
HARTMAN

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NNN

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